

Electricity on the Farm

LECTRICITY for lighting and power is rapidly advancing in the favor of the American farmer. Whether he be one of those adventurous individuals who stake their all on the prospect of developing a paying farm in the arid districts of the west and southwest, or in the swamp lands of the south, or whether he be of the class that is turning its attention to the great rewards of truck and dairy farming in the east, the modern farmer has caught the scientific spirit of the time and is getting practical results from his realization of the fact that methods must accommodate themselves to changing conditions.

At the annual convention of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers held recently in Boston, the electrical farm was considered in a paper by Putnam A. Bates. He discussed in some detail the work now being done by farmers who are developing the arid districts of the west, showing that irrigation and electricity are the two factors that promise most for the future where natural conditions are for the most part against the farmer. Irrigation came first and then the advantages of electric power pumping were realized. The so-called electrical farm has been in existence for a dozen years or more, but it is only recently that there has been an organized effort to disseminate knowledge on the practical use of electricity in agriculture.

Referring to the southwest and to the electric farm as he found it there, Mr. Bates says: "In some sections of that wonderfully fertile country, well protected by the high mountain ranges, practically every farm is an electric farm. This is to say, the buildings are lighted by electricity and many of the laborious operations are accomplished by the use of electric power. These really were our first electric farms, the period of their establishment corresponding with the development of the water powers of the



CUTTING FODDER BY POWER.

nearby mountains. "On the majority of these farms irrigation is practiced and quite naturally electricity was first made use of for pumping purposes. Then under the influence of progressive local central station operators, it was almost universally adopted for light.

"I can recall seeing electric lights and the electric station in use in the farm home on the Pacific coast eleven years ago. The people were content to enjoy the advantages which these improvements made possible to them, but did not seem to regard their conditions as unusual. Their farms were in fact electric farms and their industries, dependent upon the produce of the land, were as they are now, practically all operated by electricity.

"A brief summary of the work accomplished shows that construction is under way or has been completed on twenty-nine projects, involving an expenditure of \$65,470,000. In the eight years of actual work there have been dug 7,000 miles of canals and more than nineteen miles of tunnels, mostly excavated through mountains. The total excavation of rock and earth amounts to 77,200,000 cubic yards. There have been built 570 miles of roads, 1,700 miles of telephones, and there are now in operation 275 miles of transmission lines, over which surplus power and light are furnished to several cities and towns.

"The small farms and villages grouped about these developments give the effect of suburban rather than rural conditions. The cheap power developed from the great dams or from numerous drops in the main canals is now utilized for the operation of trolley lines, which reach out into the rural districts, bringing the farmer in closer touch with the city. It runs numerous industrial plants for storing, handling and manufacturing the raw products of the farm. The same power is used for lighting and heating in the towns, and for cooking in the homes. On several of the projects the farmers are applying for electrical power, and in many farm houses electric power is utilized for many domestic purposes.

"More than a million dollars has been invested in the development of power on the Salt River project, of which the farmers have voluntarily raised \$800,000. The sale of the power up to the beginning of the present year amounted to \$144,000, with the plant only partially constructed. This revenue will contribute materially toward lessening the cost of operating the irrigation system.

"On a large milk farm at Plainsboro, N. J., electricity is used for lighting, clipping cows, operating a bottling machine, spinning on tin foil caps or seals, cutting ensilage, running a sawmill, pumping from a deep well, grinding feed and elevating it to storage bins.

"The fact that this is a commercial plant turning out daily from 3,500 to 4,000 quarts of milk, where an exceptionally high standard of

STRIKING WIRES ON FARM

more progressive farmers. The up-to-date farmer is very much aware of the fact that the regular grooming of cows increases the supply of milk and counts strongly for cleanliness. He now has an electrical device for doing this.

One of the most interesting electrical devices on the modern farm is the telephone. In the old days the men and women were called from the fields for dinner by the blowing of a horn or by sending the small boy trudging across the field with the good news. The modern farmer's men take to the fields with them a telephone which can be rigged up near where they are working and receive messages from the house by that means.

With the installation of these electrical devices much of the romantic side of life on the farm passes away. Even a modern poet would have a hard time getting anything lyrical out of an electrical milker, and the beauty of a load of hay somehow fades when a motor truck goes chugging across the fields with it. But the American farmer ceased to be romantic when the graphophone took the place of the wheezy old organ and when his wife opened up that front parlor that always used to be such a sombre place. He is out to make money now and electrical machinery opens up a way for him to do it. When he feels like it now, he gets into his automobile and goes elsewhere to find what will appeal to his idea of the romantic.

To Burn New Home

Former Fire Chief of New York Plans Unique Demonstration.

Former Fire Chief Edward F. Croker of New York city is planning a unique yet highly impressive object lesson on the prevention of fires in dwellings. He recently purchased ground for a new house in the suburbs, and now he announces that when his \$30,000 home is completed he will demonstrate its fire-proof qualities by attempting to burn it. His grim experience while fire chief of the metropolis in seeing so many lives sacrificed each year to the demon of flames fed on flimsy materials, both in buildings and their furnishings, is back of his commendable plan to effectually prove that there is a safer and saner way.

"The house will be completely furnished at the time," explains Mr. Croker, "with rugs, draperies and furniture of artistic patterns. But everything in the place will be proof against fire. We shall fill each room with wood shavings and cotton waste on which kerosene has been poured. We have such confidence in the material employed in the house itself and in the fire-proofing qualities of the furniture that we are sure they will come out of the ordeal unscathed.

"The building itself will be constructed of fire-proof block, which can be worked up into most artistic effects. During its manufacture it was subjected to excessive heat. The exterior will be in the Italian villa style—the first story in white, the second in red, with a red tile roof.

"Not a particle of wood will be used anywhere, inside or out. Doors, window frames, sashes and trim will be of fireproof material. The floors will be of a substance that looks like wood, but which is chemically impregnated with resistant materials. The furniture will be of fireproof substances, on which fire has absolutely no effect. In parts the Edison concrete furniture will be used.

"The sanitation will be perfect. The corners of every room will be rounded, there will be a vacuum cleaning system, and so the dwelling will be insect and rat proof. Closets will be fitted like iron-plated trunks, with all the fixtures stamped metal, and lined with tile. The different appliances in them will work on ball bearing rollers. Kitchen sinks and drain boards will be of aluminum.

"There is now no fireproof house in existence, and more lives are lost through the burning of private houses than through fires in factories or other buildings."

Agents Wanted.

Mr. Goult—I am going to join the Society for the Prevention of Crime.

Reggie Riverside—Great Caesar! What for?

Mr. Goult—So that I can paint the town and have my expenses paid.—Puck.

Had a Tender Heart.

Mr. Calley—I thought both your girls played the piano?

Pa Hyley—Mamie does, but Carrie never could stand to make others unhappy.

On the Farm.

"Do you have any trouble in keeping your boys on the farm?"

"No," replied Farmer Cornstossel. "They're willin' to stay. The only difficulty is that they all want to act like summer boarders."

Trickery.

"My wife is trying to get all the other suffragettes to come out in 39 cent hats."

"What's her idea?"

"Then she'll appear in a \$50 cent faction."

PARISIANS DINE WITH THE COWS



IN Paris it is the fad just now to dine with the cows, the practice being supposedly an aid to health. Our photograph shows Madge Lessing and Marquerite Syva, American singers, in the stable of the Restaurant Prix Catalan in the Bois de Boulogne.

30,000 WERE SLAIN

Old Methods of Rubber Gathering Cost Many Lives.

Peru Failed to Keep Promises Made—Second Paper by Sir Roger Casement Shows Appeals for Reform Have Been Ignored.

London.—A sensational second chapter in the expose by Sir Roger Casement, the British consul-general at Rio Janeiro, who was sent by the British government to the Amazon to investigate reports of outrages on natives in the rubber district, came out recently in the shape of a supplementary report to the foreign office, which shows that there has been practically a total failure on the part of the Peruvian government to respond to the demand for a reform of the rubber atrocities in the Putumayo district, says a London cable.

A mass of official correspondence, which also was filed, completes the story and indicates generally the cordial co-operation of the state department at Washington with the British foreign office to secure a remedy for the abuses.

The second Casement report indicates that Peru not only did nothing, but seemed to have no intention of taking any action. All the measures taken by that government were dilatory and feeble and wholly ineffective.

None of the reforms promised by Peru, according to Sir Roger's report, has been carried out. The civilized methods of the plantation have been abandoned and the old rubber collecting methods resumed. The returns show that the 12,000 tons of rubber collected in 12 years produced from \$5,000,000 to \$7,500,000 and entailed the death of 30,000 Indians, whose bones are scattered through the forest and have made certain places resemble battlefields.

The responsibility for this, according to Sir Roger, is strictly British, as the whole output of the region is placed on the English market and conveyed from Iquitos in British bottoms. Some employers are British subjects and the commercial future of the district is dependent on British capital.

In July Sir Edward Grey, after soliciting the co-operation of the United States, pressed Peru harder not only to punish the criminals, but to enact legislation making slavery a criminal offense. The president of Peru was reminded of his treaty obligations to Great Britain and was also urged to establish a religious mission in the Putumayo district, with headquarters in Iquitos, with government backing and a substantial subsidy.

Just about this time the United States stepped in and brought pressure to bear on Peru. On June 25, 1911, Dr. Paredez, the head of the Peruvian investigation commission,

CALLS SON BY TELEPATHY

Mother's Illness Draws Him From Mountain Camp to Pasadena Hospital.

Los Angeles.—Telepathic messages called Orin Sutliff from a mountain camp to his sick mother's bedside in a Pasadena hospital, according to a statement he made. He said mysterious manifestations turned his thoughts to home and caused him to worry about his father and mother and experience the sensation of groping in the dark for an object which he instinctively knew was there.

He told a companion and when the feeling returned, shouted: "I have it! Mother is sick. I am going home." When he reached his home in Pasadena his father told him his mother was in the hospital. Comparison of dates showed the first feeling of uneasiness came over him the day his mother became ill.

Arrested for Shooting Spirits. St. Louis—Sergeant Barlow arrested a man giving the name of C. E. Drayton when the latter was caught in the act of shooting at evil spirits.

As praying in the streets, Drayton started firing and explained that a spirit was after him.

FORTUNE FOR ILLEGAL SON

Father Advertisers for Kin, Now Fifty-Two Years Old, Whom He Plans to Give \$50,000.

Philadelphia, Pa.—The following advertisement in the newspapers tells a remarkable tale of an old wrong, with the attempt of the father to right himself after fifty years of silence: "In the spring of 1859, a few miles from Lancaster, a boy child was born to a German girl named Caroline,

DUCK HAS FEAST OF NUGGETS

Gold That Lies in Bed of California Stream Found Inside Fowl Being Prepared for Table.

Pure, glittering gold, in nuggets as big as peas, lies in the beds of the streams of the San Mateo foothills. After man has traveled over these hills for years and their wooded slopes have become the estates of the wealthy, a poor, simple duck detected

the presence of the yellow metal and had to die to give the secret to the world.

While preparing a duck which he had purchased from Alexander Dombrosky, a poultryman of San Carlos, Mrs. John Tibbet of Redwood City found several pieces of gravel and a nugget of pure gold as large as a pea in the crop. Dombrosky had recently covered his country yard where the

duck had been feeding with gravel from the bed of the San Carlos creek. The gravel was taken from where the creek passes through the country estate of Colonel N. J. Brittan, the San Francisco capitalist. During the summer months the stream is dry and many loads of gravel are extracted, but the presence of gold was never suspected.

Following the sensational find of the duck, who now almost ranks with the goose that laid the golden egg, the sluice will be applied to the sands

of many San Mateo creeks which wind through the foothills on their way to the bay, and the lawns and gardens of the country homes on the peninsula may be laid out as placer claims.—San Francisco Chronicle.

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but was refused, the executor claiming the will made him trustee for a longer period. The court of appeals ordered the property turned over to the heiress, but before this was done a new complication arose.

Miss Wilkins fell in love with a handsome captain in the German army, but her mother refused to give her consent to the match, fearing that the wooer was after her fortune. In vain did the girl plead that she knew better, but the mother was obdurate. Finally she said that she would give her consent if the daughter would make a deed of trust of the property in Baltimore so that the captain would not be able to get hold of it. The daughter made the deed of trust and her marriage followed.

The captain proved a good husband and he won his mother-in-law, who subsequently married a general, and both mother and daughter moved in the army set at the German capital. The trustee, when Mrs. von Buckwaldt sought to have the deed revoked, refused and her mother is now aiding her daughter's suit to have it set aside.

BAR HATPINS FROM CARS

Authorities of Hamburg Issue Order for the Ejection of Offending Women.

Hamburg.—The police authorities have issued an order whereby any woman who enters a street car with unprotected hatpins is liable to ejection by the conductor. For the benefit of strangers the company has provided its conductors with hatpin protectors, which they are now selling for a cent apiece.

SUES FOR PARENT'S RICHES

Daughter's Novel Action Revives International Romance at Baltimore.

Baltimore, Md.—Alice Wilkins von Buckwaldt, a Baltimore girl, wife of Captain von Buckwaldt of the German army, has begun suit here to get possession of the estate left her by her father, who died many years ago, amounting to \$250,000. Alice was the youngest child and her mother took her to Germany soon after her father's death. When twenty-one Alice attempted to get her property,

CONFIRMED ALL THE ATROCITY STORIES.

Two hundred and fifteen arrest warrants were issued, but there were only four arrests. All the others had naturally used the six months' delay to vanish.

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